

Serial No. 10/726,208

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Page 1, line 21 through page 2, line 12 have been amended as follows:

The housing 24 includes two diametrically disposed mounting ~~portions~~ **portion** 241 each having a screw ~~hole~~ **holes** 242, and the inside rose liner 13 includes two holes 130 aligned with the screw holes 242, with two screws 14 respectively extending through the holes 130 of the inside rose liner 13 into the screw holes 242 of the housing 24. The inside rose liner 13 and the outside rose liner 23 are thus engaged, and the main portion of the lock is fixed in a borehole 81 of a door 8.

To assure sufficient strength for the lock and to cut the manufacturing cost, most parts of the conventional tubular lock are made of zinc alloy. Although zinc is cheaper than steel and ~~possesses~~ **possess** certain strength, the zinc alloy has a low melting point. Thus, when the tubular lock is mounted to a fireproof door, the outside rose liner 23 and the housing 24 melt when subjected to fire, as the mounting portion 241 inside the outside rose liner 23 is formed on the housing 24 that has a relatively low strength. As a result, as illustrated in Fig. 3, the inside rose liner 13 and the outside rose liner 23 are disengaged from the door and fall, exposing the borehole 81 in the door 8. The fireproof door malfunctions, as smoke and fire could not be barred.

Page 3, lines 6-15 have been amended as follows:

In an embodiment of the invention, the outside rose liner includes a housing extending from an inner face thereof. The housing includes two mounting portions each having a screw hole. The inside rose liner includes two holes respectively aligned with the screw holes of the outside rose liner. ~~[[Te]]~~ **The** fireproof cover includes two legs each having an end piece on a distal end thereof. The respective end piece has a hole aligned with the respective screw hole of the outside rose liner. Two screws are respectively extending through the holes of the inside rose liner and the holes of the fireproof cover into the screw holes of the outside rose liner. The hole of the respective leg of the fireproof cover is preferably a screw hole.

Page 4, lines 19 and 20 have been amended as follows:

Fig. 8 is a sectional view illustrating use of ~~the~~ **[[he]]** fireproof cover with a tubular lock of another type.

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Page 4, line 22 through page 5, line 26 have been amended as follows:

Referring to Figs. 4 and 5, a tubular lock in accordance with the present invention generally comprises an inside assembly 4, an outside assembly 5, and a latch mechanism 6. The inside assembly 4 includes an inside handle 41, an inside rose 42, an inside rose liner 43 mounted inside the inside rose 42, and an inside spindle 46 extending through the inside rose 42 and the inside rose liner 43. The outside assembly 5 includes an outside handle 51, an outside rose 52, an outside rose liner 53 mounted inside the outside rose 52, and an outside spindle 56 extending through the outside rose 52 and the outside rose liner 53. A housing 54 is formed on an inner face of the outside rose liner 53, and a locking/unlocking bar 55 is mounted to an end of the outside spindle 56. The housing 54 includes two diametrically disposed mounting ~~portions~~ ~~portion~~ 541 each having a screw holes 542, and the inside rose liner 43 includes two holes 430 aligned with the screw holes 542.

The latch mechanism 6 is mounted between the inside rose liner 43 and the outside rose liner 53 and includes a casing 60, a latch 61, and a cam 62 that is operably connected to the latch 61 for retracting the latch 61 and that has a through-hole 621 through which the locking/unlocking bar ~~[[65]]~~ 55 extends. When either handle 41, 51 is turned, the locking/unlocking bar 55 is turned to retract the latch 61 inward, achieving the unlatching operation.

Still referring to Fig. 4, the tubular lock in accordance with the present invention further includes a fireproof cover 7 made of a fireproof material. The fireproof cover 7 includes a longitudinal hole 71 in a ring portion 70 and through which the outside spindle 56 extends. Two legs 72 extend from a side of the fire proof cover 7 along a direction parallel to a longitudinal direction of the outside spindle 56. The legs 72 are preferably diametrically disposed on a peripheral edge of the fireproof cover 7. Preferably, the respective leg 72 has a length slightly greater than an axial length of the housing 54. Further, the respective leg 72 has an end piece 73 on a distal end thereof, with the end piece 73 being located in front of the respective mounting portion 541, and with the end piece 73 having a screw hole 731 aligned with the screw hole 542 of the respective mounting portion 541. Further, the respective leg 72 has a protrusion 722 on an outer face thereof.

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Page 6, line 22 through page 7, line 4 have been amended as follows:

The fireproof cover 7 is made of a fireproof material, such as steel. Referring to Fig. 7, when the tubular lock in accordance with the present invention is mounted to a door 8, the outside rose liner 53 and the housing 54 with the mounting portions 541 may melt when subject to fire, yet the fireproof cover 7 will not melt (or at least delay the time of melting). Disengagement between the inside rose liner ~~[[13]]~~ 43 and the outside rose liner ~~[[23]]~~ 53 will not occur. Thus, when the tubular lock in accordance with the present invention is mounted to a fireproof door, a reliable fire and smoke barrier is provided while increasing the structural strength of the tubular lock itself.